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I, Caitlin L. Gardner, hereby certify that this correspondence, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: September 15, 2006

By Caitlin Gardner

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants:	Mehregany et al.	Docket No.:	47799.00003
Application No.:	09/677,197	Group Art Unit:	3621
Filing Date:	October 2, 2000	Examiner:	Kambiz Abdi
TITLE:	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ACQUISITION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT		

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner:

The Examiner's statement of allowability provided in the prosecution history of this case is objected to, to the extent that it may give rise to reasoning that is inconsistent with the proper scope of the claims. The statement does not include at least (1) all the differences in the claims not found in the prior art of record, and (2) all the reasons why such differences are considered to define patentability over the prior art.


Claim construction requires each claim to be taken as a whole. Patentability of each claim is imparted by each claim as a whole. No portion of any claim is to be construed as more important for patentability than any other portion.

Applicants assert that each claim is allowable because all statutory requirements have been met, including, *inter alia*, the absence in all art of record of the same inventions as claimed or any disclosure, teaching, or suggestion (explicit or implied) that would make the claimed inventions obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 15, 2006

By

  
Matthew J. Evans  
Reg. No. 56,530

SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.  
Two Renaissance Square  
40 North Central Avenue, Suite 2700  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4498  
(602) 528-4124

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